

WILLIAM D. BLAKE

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

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Academic Appointments

2023	UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA Visiting Professor, School of Law
2022-25	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY Affiliate Faculty, School of Public Policy
2021-25	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY Associate Professor of Political Science
2015-21	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY Assistant Professor of Political Science
2014-15	IUPUI CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND AMERICAN CULTURE Faculty Research Fellow
2013-15	INDIANA UNIVERSITY, IUPUI Assistant Professor of Political Science

Education

2013	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN Ph.D. in Government
2012	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN M.A. in Government
2004	COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY A.B. in Government, <i>magna cum laude</i> and with high honors

Honors and Awards

2026	Delivered Constitution and Citizenship Day address, Salisbury University.
2022	Teacher of the Year, Department of Political Science, UMBC.
2021	Honorable Mention, Ted Jelen Award for Best Journal Article, American Political Science Association, Religion and Politics Section.

- 2018, 25, 26 Professor Making a Positive Impact, UMBC Career Center.
- 2015 Favorite Professor Awardee, IUPUI Athletics.
- 2011 Best Conference Paper, American Political Science Association Law & Courts Section (with Stefanie Lindquist and Pamela Corley).
- 2004 President's Award for Excellence in Parliamentary Writing, American Institute of Parliamentarians.

Selected Research & Teaching Grants

- 2025 \$500 (and course releases) CAHSS Research Fellows Program, UMBC.
- 2023 \$1,500 CAHSS Student Research Assistance for Faculty RCA, UMBC.
- 2020 \$4,000 Dean's Research Fund, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UMBC.
- 2018 \$6,000 Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research, UMBC.
- 2017 \$1,500 Supplement for Undergraduate Research Experiences Award, UMBC.
- 2016 \$3,000 Dean's Research Fund, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UMBC.
- 2016 \$6,000 Summer Faculty Fellowship, Office of the Vice President for Research, UMBC.
- 2015 \$1,500 Undergraduate Research Assistantship Support Award, UMBC.
- 2014 \$5,000 Summer Research Grant, IUPUI School of Liberal Arts.
- 2012 \$8,500 Joe R. Long Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin Department of Government.
- 2012 \$2,400 Faculty Research Grant from Arkansas State University.

Books

- 2026 Blake, William D., Joseph Francesco Cozza, and David A. Armstrong II. *The Social Foundations of Constitutional Innovation*. Cambridge Elements in Comparative Political Behavior. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2024 Kromer, Mileah and William Blake. "How Academic-Based Survey Research Organizations Inform and Influence the Development of Sub-National Public Policy." *State and Local Government Review* 56(3): 277-88.
- 2024 Blake, William D., Joseph Francesco Cozza, David A. Armstrong II, and Amanda Friesen. "Social Capital, Institutional Rules, and Constitutional Amendment Rates." *American Political Science Review* 118(2): 1075-83.
- 2022 Blake, William D. "A Positivist, Baseball-Centric Critique of Originalism." *Constitutional Commentary* 37(2): 133-47 (single-blind review).

- 2020 Blake, William D. and Ian G. Anson. "Risk and Reform: Explaining Support for Constitutional Convention Referendums." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 20(3): 330-55.
- 2020 Lewis, Andrew R., William D. Blake, Stephen T. Mockabee, and Amanda Friesen. "American Constitutional Faith and the Politics of Hermeneutics." *Politics and Religion* 13(1): 57-88.
- 2019 Blake, William D. "'One Difficulty...of a Serious Nature': The Overlooked Racial Dynamics of the Electoral College." *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics* 17(2): 315-43.
- 2019 Blake, William D. "'Justice Under the Constitution, Not Over It': Public Perceptions of FDR's Court-packing Plan." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 49(1): 204-18.
- 2018 Blake, William D. "Judicial Independence on Unelected State Supreme Courts." *Justice System Journal* 39(1): 21-38.
- 2016 Blake, William and Sanford Levinson. "The Limits of Veneration: Public Support for a New Constitutional Convention." *Constitutional Studies* 2(1): 1-22.
- 2015 Blake, William D., Hans J. Hacker and Shon R. Hopwood. "Seasonal Affective Disorder: Clerk Training and the Success of Supreme Court *Certiorari* Petitions." *Law & Society Review* 49(4): 973-97.
- 2015 Blake, William D. "Pine Tar and the Infield Fly Rule: An Umpire's Perspective on the Hart-Dworkin Jurisprudential Debate." In *The Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture: 2013-2014*, ed. William J. Simons (single-blind review). Jefferson City, NC: McFarland, 244-57.
- 2013 Blake, William D. and Amanda Friesen. "The Politics of Denying Communion to Catholic Elected Officials." *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics* 11(4): 671-82.
- 2013 Blake, William D. "Pyrrhic Victories: How the Secularization Doctrine Undermines the Sanctity of Religion." *Journal of Church and State* 55(1): 1-22.
- 2012 Blake, William. "God Save This Honorable Court: Religion as a Source of Judicial Policy Preferences." *Political Research Quarterly* 65(4): 814-26.
- 2012 Blake, William. "Umpires as Legal Realists." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 45(2): 271-76.
- 2010 Blake, William D. and Hans J. Hacker. "The Brooding Spirit of the Law: Supreme Court Justices Reading Dissents from the Bench." *Justice System Journal* 31(1): 1-25.

Non-peer Reviewed Publications

- 2023 Blake, William D. "'Our Constitution...Should Be Read by Intelligent and Patriotic Men': A Statistical Analysis of Constitutional Rhetoric." *Maryland Law Review* 83(1): 314-30.
- 2022 Blake, William D. "Constitutional Faith, Not Faith in the Constitution: A Reflection and Call to Action." *Balkinization*.
- 2021 Blake, William D. and Carolyn Forestiere. "Are Students Failing Research Methods or is Research Methods Failing Students?" In *Teaching Research Methods in Political Science*, ed. Jeffrey Bernstein, 194-207. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar.

- 2019 Blake, William. "'Don't Confuse Me With the Facts': Ideological Appeals to Social Science on the U.S. Supreme Court." *Maryland Law Review* 79(1): 101-40.
- 2016 Levinson, Sanford and William Blake. "When Americans Think About Constitutional Reform: Some Data and Reflections." *Ohio State Law Journal* 77(2): 211-36.
- 2005 Hacker, Hans J. and William D. Blake. "The Neutrality Principle: The Hidden Yet Powerful Legal Axiom at Work in *Brown v. Board of Education*." *Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy* 8(1): 5-59.
- 2005 Blake, William. "Jurisprudence Transcending Time and Space: Affirmative Action and the Revolution of 1937." *Dartmouth College Undergraduate Journal of Law* 2(2): 19-28.
- 2003 Blake, William. "The Filibuster, the Constitution, and the Founding Fathers." *Parliamentary Journal* 44(2): 43-53.

Current Research Projects

The Considered Judgment of the People: How Public Opinion Shaped the New Deal Constitutional Revolution. In progress (book-length project).

Punctuated Equilibrium, Social Capital, and the Contours of American Constitutional Development. In progress (with Joseph Cozza and Dave Armstrong).

"'Destructive of the Whole Fabric': The Jurisprudential Consequences of American Constitutional Architecture." In progress (with Hans Hacker).

Selected Conference Presentations

- 2026 Blake, William. "Popular Sovereignty, the Constitution, and the New Deal." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism, Baltimore, March 2026.
- 2025 Blake, William. "'Destructive of the Whole Fabric': Reflections on Constitutional Architecture, Originalism, and the Perpetuation of Caste." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2024 Rhodes-Purdy, Matthew and William Blake. "A Fearful Asymmetry: Why the Ideological Capture of Courts Disproportionately Benefits the Right (and How the Left Makes this a Self-Fulfilling Prophecy)." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2023 Blake, William, Joseph Cozza, David Armstrong, and Amanda Friesen. "Social Capital, Institutional Rules, and Constitutional Amendment Rates." Paper presented at the Global Summit on Constitutionalism.
- 2023 Blake, William. "'Our Constitution...Should Be Read by Intelligent and Patriotic Men': A Statistical Analysis of Constitutional Rhetoric." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2022 Blake, William. "Constitutional Faith, Not Faith in the Constitution: A Reflection and Call to Action." Paper presented at LevinsonFest 2022.
- 2022 Blake, William, Joseph Cozza, and Amanda Friesen. "Social Capital and Support for the Equal Rights Amendment." Paper presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting.

- 2022 Cozza, Joseph and William Blake. "Citizens' Assemblies and Political Representation in the Age of Populism." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2021 Blake, William, Joseph Cozza, and Amanda Friesen. "Social Capital, Institutional Rules, and Constitutional Amendment Rates." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2021 Blake, William. "The New Deal: Retrospection, Realignment, or a Reconstituted Polity?" Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2021 Blake, William and Ian Anson. "Green-lighting Democratic Erosion? Unpacking the Supreme Court's Endorsement Effect on Public Opinion." Paper presented at the Global Summit on Constitutionalism.
- 2021 Blake, William. "The American People in the Driver's Seat: How Public Opinion Killed FDR's Court-Packing Plan." Paper presented at the Global Summit on Constitutionalism.
- 2020 Blake, William. "The New Deal: Retrospection, Realignment, or a Reconstituted Polity?" Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2020 Blake, William D. and Carolyn Forestiere. "Are Students Failing Research Methods or is Research Methods Failing Students?" Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Teaching & Learning Conference.
- 2020 Blake, William. "The Role of 'We the People' During Constitutional Moments: The Promise and Limitations of Dualist Democracy." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2019 Blake, William. "Originalism, the Rule of Recognition, and Interpretive Discretion Over the Baseball Rulebook and the Constitution." Paper presented at the Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture.
- 2019 Blake, William. "'Don't Confuse Me With the Facts': Appeals to Science and Ideological Polarization on the U.S. Supreme Court." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2019 Blake, William and Ian Anson. "Risk and Reform: Explaining Support for Constitutional Convention Referendums." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2018 Blake, William. "'The People's Problem': Constitutional Politics During the New Deal Era." Paper presented at the Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2017 Blake, William. "Constitutional Yet Unconstitutional: Public Perceptions of the New Deal Constitutional Crisis." Paper presented at the Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism.
- 2017 Blake, William and Ian Anson. "Economic Voting and Support for Constitutional Conventions." Paper presented at the National Capital Area Political Science Association.
- 2016 Blake, William and Ian Anson. "Economic Voting and Support for Constitutional Conventions." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2016 Blake, William and Amanda Friesen. "The Intersection of American Religious and Constitutional Faith." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science of Association Annual Meeting.

- 2016 Blake, William. "Popular Constitutionalism as Political Behavior: State Constitutional Convention Referenda." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2015 Blake, William and Sanford Levinson. "The Constitution, and Its Many, Public Critics." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2014 Blake, William. "The Constitutional Faith of American Evangelicals." Presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2013 Blake, William, Hans Hacker and Shon Hopwood. "Summer Doldrums: The Seasonal Variation in Success of Supreme Court *Certiorari* Petitions." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2013 Blake, William. "Pine Tar and the Infield Fly Rule: An Umpire's Perspective on the Hart-Dworkin Jurisprudential Debate." Paper presented at the 25th Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture.
- 2012 Blake, William. "Judicial Independence on State Supreme Courts: Do Justices 'Follow the Election Returns?'" Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2012 Blake, William. "Dissensus and Judicial Independence on State Supreme Courts." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2010 Blake, William. "Assessing the Effect of Catholic Justices on Supreme Court Decisions." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2010 Lindquist, Stefanie A., Pamela C. Corley and William Blake. "State Courts, State Legislatures, and U.S. Supreme Court Review." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2010 Blake, William and C. Welton Gaddy. "Pyrrhic Victories: How Government Secularization of Sacred Symbols Undermines the Sanctity of Religion." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.
- 2003 Hacker, Hans and William Blake. "Toward an 'Integrated' Theory of Associative Right: The Lochnerian Foundations of Civil Rights Jurisprudence." Paper presented at the Supreme Court Historical Society Summer Seminar.

Selected Departmental, University, and Professional Service

- 2025-26 Governance Committee Member, Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law Certificate Program, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UMBC.
- 2025-26 Adjunct Committee, Department of Political Science, UMBC.
- 2023-25 Campus Grade Review Panel, Provost's Office, UMBC.
- 2023-25 Dean's Research Advisory Committee, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UMBC.
- 2023-24 Hiring Committee Member, Vice President for Communications and Marketing, UMBC.
- 2020-24 Associate Chair, Department of Political Science, UMBC.
- 2020-24 Scholarship Committee Member, Department of Political Science, UMBC.

- 2020, 24 Constitutional law lecture featured on American History TV, C-SPAN 3.
- 2020 Invited to give a talk on the politics of the COVID-19 pandemic for the Coffee & Politics Series of the Thomas S. Foley Institute for Public Policy and Public Service.
- 2019-25 Advisor, UMBC Debate.
- 2019-22 Member, Intellectual Sports Advisory Council, UMBC.
- 2019-20 Promotion and Tenure Policy Revision Committee Member, Department of Political Science, UMBC.
- 2019-20 Member, Research Methods Course Evaluation Committee, UMBC Department of Political Science.
- 2018-24 UMBC Faculty Senator.
- 2018-21 Instructor, UMBC Summer Enrichment Experience (Moot Court).
- 2016-24 Organizer, UMBC Constitution Day.
- 2016-23 Faculty Advisor, UMBC Moot Court Team.
- 2015-24 Library Liaison, Department of Political Science, UMBC.
- 2015-16 Mentor, Criminal Justice in Interdisciplinary Studies Major, Wyatt Griffith.
- 2014-15 Faculty Advisor, IUPUI Pre-Law Society.
- 2014-15 IUPUI Master's Thesis Chair, Sean Byrne.
- 2014 IUPUI Political Science Department Tenure Committee Member, Jasper Sumner.
- 2014 Co-organizer, IUPUI Bulen Symposium on American Politics.
- 2011-12 Intellectual Entrepreneurship Mentor, University of Texas at Austin.
- 2010-25 Research has been cited by CNN, the *New York Times* (twice), *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Newsweek*, *The New Republic*, *Associated Press*, *Reuters*, *UPI*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Baltimore Sun*, *The Hill*, *Huffington Post*, *SCOTUSblog*, *The Conversation*, *International Bar Association Global Insight*, *New York Times* Best-selling books *The Oath* and *Notorious R.B.G.*, KCTS (PBS Seattle), the Center for Civic Education's 26th Annual High School National Finals of *We the People: Citizenship and the Constitution*, Amicus Curiae Brief of the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, *In Re Marriage Cases*, 43 Cal.4th 757 (2008) (urging the California Supreme Court to invalidate a state constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union of one man and one woman), and Final Report of Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States.
- 2003 Help America Vote Act Advisory Committee Member, Commonwealth of Virginia.

Reviewer

American Political Science Review, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Law & Society Review*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Political Behavior*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *American Politics Research*, *Electoral Studies*, *Publius*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *Journal of Legal Studies*, *Justice System Journal*, *Rationality and Society*, *NINE: A Journal of Baseball History & Culture*, Oxford University Press, W.W. Norton.